

suspension of construction activity from 1962 to January, 1976. The construction activity has been revived again and construction of staff quarters at a few selected cities approved according to a phased programme starting with those where accommodation situation is very acute. Ranchi has not been included in the first phase.

Cases referred to the Income tax Settlement Commission

658. SHRI DHARAMCHAND JAIN : Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state the number of cases referred to the Income-tax Settlement Commission up to the 30th June, 1976 ?

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Applications for settlement had been received by the Income-tax Settlement Commission in 44 cases up to 30th June, 1976.

Statutory status for the Bureau of Public Enterprises and Standing Committee of the Conference of Public Undertakings

659. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to give statutory status to the Bureau of Public Enterprises and the Standing Committee of the Conference of Public Undertakings; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) and (b) The Bureau of Public Enterprises is part of the Department of Expenditure in the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. The Standing Conference of Public Enterprises is a registered society under the Registration of Society Act, XXI of 1860. The

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question of according statutory status to these organisations does not, therefore, arise.

Employees belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in branches of the Nationalised Banks in Assam

660. SHRI SYED ABDUL MALIK : Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of nationalised banks which are operating in Assam at present ;

(b) the number of employees in these branches ;

(c) the number of employees belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and minority communities working in these branches ; and

(d) the number among them who hold executive positions and the percentage of such executives to the total bank employees in Assam ?

THE MINISTER FOR REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) Information to the extent available is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Unhygienic conditions in the Public Sector Five-Star Hotels

661. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently received any complaints about the unhygienic conditions in the kitchens in Government-owned Five-Star Hotels in Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras ; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) The India Tourism